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The Brooklyn Paper

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RUSSIAN ROULETTE

Amid tension, Nets tsar could pack up team office for Moscow

By Megan Riesz

The Brooklyn Paper

Call them the Moscow Nets.

Brooklyn Nets owner and Russian billionaire Mikhail Prokhorov is looking to pass the basketball team's corporate offices back to his mother country, apparently out of fear that a second Iron Curtain is descending as a result of Russia's contentious military maneuvering in Ukraine. In his announcement, Prokhorov vowed that the unusual fast-break would be totally aboveboard.

"A Russian company will own the basketball club," Prokhorov told reporters on Monday, according to the wire news service Reuters. "This (move)



Control of Brooklyn's home team might be moving far from Downtown's MetroTech Center.

does not violate any NBA rules and I will bring it (under Russian jurisdiction) in accordance with Russian law."

He did not mention it, but the plutocrat's proclamation came the same day Russia was suspended from the Group of Eight, a Western conference of industrialized countries that includes the United States, and the U.S. slapped Russian president Vladimir Putin's inner circle of officials and oligarchs with economic sanctions. The boxing-out was a response to Russia's zone offensive on Crimea, a region of Ukraine that once belonged to Russia. Western leaders said the power play was way out of bounds.

Prokhorov lost the 2012

Russian presidential election to Putin and the hoops mogul's Moscow mayoral bid was thwarted last summer by a new law forbidding political candidates from owning real estate abroad. In addition to a 45 percent stake in the Barclays Center, Prokhorov reportedly owns an island in Africa's Seychelles, and a chalet in the Alps, where French authorities accused him of flying in prostitutes to ring in the Russian Orthodox New Year in 2007. Those charges were later dropped.

The National Basketball Association has not received an application for the buzzer-beating ownership transfer of the Nets, according to a spokes-

See NETS on page 3



Jacinda Motton of Crown Heights spent her Saturday painting murals for Love Brooklyn Day.

Kings, for a day

'Love Brooklyn Day' brings out volunteers across the borough

By Matthew Perlman

The Brooklyn Paper

up a notch with work initiatives at nine locations around the borough on Saturday.

The event is not to be confused with Brooklyn Day, or, as the bean counters in Albany refer to it, Brooklyn-Queens Day, which takes place the first Thursday of June each year, officially to celebrate the anniversary of the organization of church Sunday schools, but in practice to give the borough of Kings its due. First-time



See LOVE on page 15

Prognosis negative

LICH advocates slam Related, Fortis overhaul plans

By Megan Riesz

The Brooklyn Paper

Activists against closing Long Island College Hospital do not agree on who should take over, but they know exactly who they don't want —

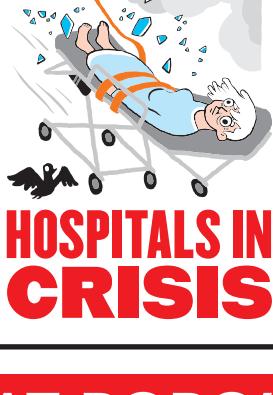
NEW BID GUIDE SEE PAGE 8

developers who would replace the hospital with a few doctor's offices.

Hundreds of hospital employees, union reps, and Cobble Hill residents flooded the Saint Francis College Auditorium on Tuesday night to hear about the nine redevelopment proposals for the hospital, which

will close in May if no one steps up to keep it running when state managers walk away. Audience members were reserved about which of the four hospital-included overhaul plans they approved.

See LICH on page 14



MADE IN BROOKLYN, 2014: A LOOK AT BORO'S INDUSTRIAL REVIVAL

Cooking up new biz

Food incubators bring heat to Industry City

By Max Jaeger

The Brooklyn Paper

The low-cost space available in Sunset Park's Industry City is prompting a boom in a new business model — the time-share kitchen.

The sprawling industrial park on the site of the old Bush Terminal offers big, raw spaces to its tenants — sometimes more than they need — and as a result some culinary start-ups are becoming de facto incubators for other aspiring chefs.

"Being in this big industrial space, we felt like the only limitations were budget," said Yonatan Israel, who owns Colson Patisserie.

He said there was too much



Photo by Max Jaeger

Oleg Dobrzhanskiy of Regal Vegan sautes some onions while a worker from a separate company boils chicken.

room, but the space was too much of a deal to pass up, so he sublets to three other food-makers.

For Israel, it was important to find the right people to share his space, but another Industry City kitchen a few blocks away is opening its doors to anybody with a spatula and a dream.

Hana Kitchen rents space to new food-makers who do not have the capital to build their own kitchens, said Nicole Bernensolo, a partner in the venture who uses the facility to make gluten-free desserts for her company Kyotofu.

She and business partner Michael Hu shared the vast space — about the size of four tennis courts.

See FOOD on page 14



Ginger ale impresario Bruce Cost shows us the goods in his new Williamsburg factory.

Taking root in Williamsburg

Ginger ale factory growing

By Danielle Furfarro

The Brooklyn Paper

The industrial area around Williamsburg's Morgan Avenue L station is about to get a little more bubbly.

A small-scale, neighborhood ginger-ale manufacturer is moving into bigger digs with plans to ramp up production of its spicy beverage, the base ingredient of which its owner says has serious mass appeal.

"Mankind has an affinity for the herb all over the world," said Bruce Cost, owner of Bruce Cost

Ginger Ale.

Cost started making the ginger ale in the 1980s, when he was an exiled New Yorker running a Chinese and Southeast Asian restaurant in San Francisco called Monsoon. He came up with his version of the drink during a dinner featuring tra-

See ALE on page 6

CAP'N'S LOG



STARDATE: -308781.8316844241

Wonder Wheeeeel!

— twitter.com/SirPatStew

In this episode, our heroic Captain, Sir Patrick Stewart—a resident of Park Slope who famously played Jean-Luc Picard on "Star Trek: The Next Generation"—explores the distant reaches of the Coney Quadrant and becomes trapped with first officer Sir Ian McKellen inside a steel cage affixed to a strange, rotating contraption.

On the next episode, whatever Sir Patrick Stewart tweets about.



Old-movie buff Ken Gordon runs a silent-film series at the Central Library.

As his piano gently weeps

Silent-film buff brings old celluloid to life at library

By Matthew Perlman

The Brooklyn Paper

His is a very quiet labor of love. A Midwood man has spent the past 17 years bringing silent films to life through free screenings. If you watch the flicks closely enough, you can hear a lot, the film buff says.

"Silent films have incredibly loud voices," said Ken Gordon, who curates a twice-annual silent-film series at the Central Library. "I want these films to be seen."

Gordon first began organizing silent

film screenings in 1997 at the Brooklyn Museum. A few years later, he moved the shows to the library, where he now runs series in the spring and fall. He said it is important to preserve the movies and to introduce them to new audiences.

"They're all timeless," said Gordon. "They tell our story. They're about human beings."

He also loves the idea of hosting cultural events in his home borough, because he remembers growing up when finding "the arts" meant trekking across

the East River.

"We always schlepped into Manhattan to get our culture," Gordon said. "I wanted to give Brooklynites an excuse to not have to go."

Many of the screenings are accompanied by a live pianist who plays along with the film. This, Gordon said, is like an art in itself. The musician has to create the right mood for every scene without overshadowing the visual experience. And finding these movie mafiosos is no easy task.

See PIANO on page 13

Beep on cars, roller coasters, and council

Adams vociferous on Coney, mum on his non-profit

Borough President Adams has been in office for nearly three months and we checked in to see how he is holding up. He was more than happy to give his take on the city's so-called "Slow Zones," which reduce neighbor-

hood speed limits to 20, and the Thunderbolt, Coney Island's first new roller coaster since 1927 — no way is he getting on that thing. But when the conversation turned to recent reports by the New York Post stat-

ing the city is investigating him after an aide allegedly solicited funds at Borough Hall for a group called One Brooklyn, which does not officially exist, Adams suggested we talk it over with his attorney.



Adams on Line 1

Here is the full discussion.

Bill Egbert: What do you think of the push for slow zones in neighborhoods like Park Slope, Fort Greene, and Greenpoint?

Eric Adams: If you were to go back a few years, I pushed the 20-mile-

See ADAMS on page 8

Court Street grocer Giuseppe Caputo dies at 83

By Megan Riesz

The Brooklyn Paper

Caputo's Fine Foods owner Giuseppe Caputo passed away on Friday, his son confirmed.

The beloved food-maker and grocer was 83. The loss left his son momentarily speechless.

"I don't know what to say. I'm blank," said Frank Caputo, who would

not divulge how his father died.

The late Caputo emigrated from Mola di Bari, Italy, in 1972. He founded the gourmet shop on Court Street the following year with his wife, who died in 2007. He was renowned for making fresh blocks of mozzarella and pasta in the store and treating his customers like family, according to an owner of a neighboring Italian eatery.

"He was a good man — nice, very friendly," said Joe Chirico, proprietor of Marco Polo Ristorante, which opened two blocks away from Caputo's one year after Caputo's. "He was a very good chef."

Making mozzarella was Caputo's passion, his son said.

The store Caputo's offers an array of oil-soaked breads, thick-cut meats, cheeses, and other mouth-wa-

tering Italian delicacies. The shop was born when Caputo became fed up with working for other people and decided to buy the Court Street building, his son told the food blog Nona Brooklyn in 2011. Caputo and his wife started off selling only six types of cheese, a few varieties of olives, and cans of tomatoes. Then came the cold cuts and pasta, and the following that has made the store a neighbor-

hood mainstay.

The regular customers lit up his days, his son said.

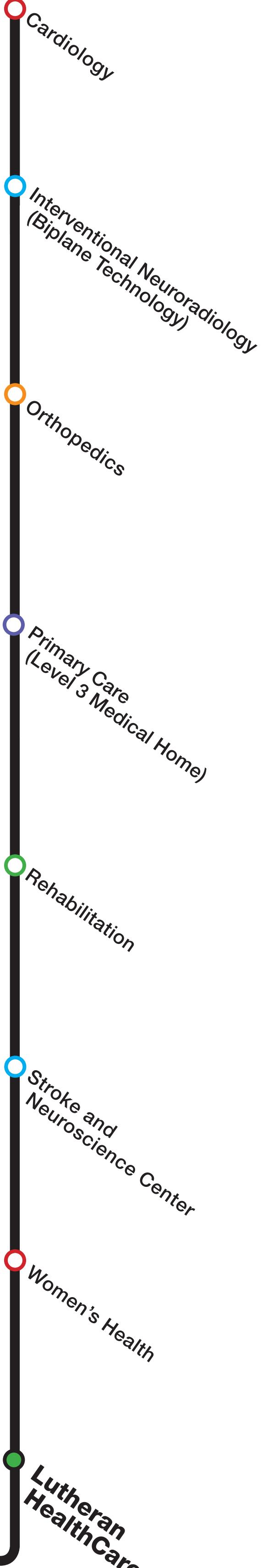
"He loved the people that came in," Frank Caputo said.

The shop briefly closed for Caputo's wake on Sunday, but reopened on Wednesday with Frank Caputo at the helm.

Caputo is survived by Frank and his other son, Vito.



Frank Caputo is running the store without his father.



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BROOKLYN NETS COVERAGE**Plumlee tops expectations**

FRONT COURT
By Tom Lafe

The Nets have found a winning formula playing in the absence of two of the team's biggest frontcourt names in Brook Lopez and Kevin Garnett.

Even though this half of the Frontcourt vs. Backcourt column would like to be able to point to the Nets' big men for their in-season turnaround, it is clear that small-ball is working for this team.

However, an unlikely name has stepped up and played some of the biggest minutes: Mason Plumlee.

At the beginning of the season, it didn't seem as if there was even a spot on the bench for Plumlee.

Playing behind Lopez, Garnett, Blatche, and Evans, it looks like Plumlee was headed for the NBA's D-League.

But due to key injuries and trades — and crediting Plumlee's play — he has managed to stick with the big boy club, and make a name for himself.

During the last 13 games, Kevin Garnett, the Nets defensive and vocal leader and most important member of the frontcourt corps has been sidelined due to back spasms.

Enter Plumlee.

The first-round, 22nd-over-



Mason Plumlee has stepped up for the Nets this season.

all pick from Duke was inserted into the starting lineup and the Nets haven't missed a beat, going 10-3 during that stretch.

In his role as a starter, Plumlee has averaged eight points per game on 63-percent shooting, 5.7 rebounds, 1.3 assists and one steal. And the majority of his points have come from inside the paint, proving he can finish from un-

der the rim — which is exactly what any coach wants to see out of its young big men.

It goes without saying that there is room for growth with Plumlee, but he's given coach Kidd and general manager Billy Knight more than they could ever expected when they selected him last June.

And while it is still Kevin Garnett's frontcourt, it isn't clear when he will return. The

Nets hope he does before the first round of the playoffs. But if that doesn't happen, management should be confident with the young man standing behind him.

Tom Lafe is a 6-foot-5 sports-world insider with a middling high school basketball career who believes the Nets will be driven by the success of the team's big men.

after an overtime game in Dallas the night before. But it was not the first time he and D-Will have begun possessions with their backs to the basket, looking more like Karl Malone than John Stockton.

The novelty of the situation — point guard as big man — might seem like a clever wrinkle for the Nets' small-ball lineup. Without a dominant post player to pass to in the lane, the point guard initiates the offense down low, then kicks the ball out to one of the shooters lined up along the three-point arc.

But Coach Kidd, a legendary point guard himself, should stop his squad from getting carried away with this idea, mainly because it leaves Brooklyn vulnerable to one of its worst vices: a stagnant offense.

The Nets' offense is at its best when the ball is whipping around the floor, and at its worst when four players are standing around watching one. Livingston and Williams may be big for their position, but their size should be used mainly to enhance normal guard play, as they break down defenders in the lane and find teammates cutting to the basket. Now that Brooklyn's backcourt is rolling, it is not time to reinvent the wheel.

Matt Spolar is a nearly 6-foot-1 journalist with a middling high school basketball career who is sure the Nets win thanks to team's top-tier guards.



Associated Press/David Zalubowski

Shawn Livingston and his pals in the backcourt need to focus on the frontcourt when they carry the ball toward the paint, says our columnist.

ble or deft enough to make the plays required of top-level guards.

Far from it.

What I am saying is their size makes it tempting for the Nets to use them in ways

that aren't necessarily in the team's best interest. Livingston's repeated post-up attempts in New Orleans were an extreme example, likely because the Nets were a tired bunch, playing shorthanded.

of tax law and other bodies of law that could pertain to a team operating in Russia, which is different to the United States," said Marc Edelman, a law professor at the City University of New York's Zicklin School of Business.

The venue change would require approval of the league's board of 30 team owners, a league spokesman added.

"Clearly, there might be differences in terms

NETS...

Continued from page 1
man, who did not say whether such a long-shot move would be allowed.

The league would probably prefer that the companies running Brooklyn's home-team remain where they are — the Nets' front office is in Downtown's MetroTech while Prokhorov's holding

company Onexim Sports and Entertainment is registered in Delaware — but it has also been trying to expand its global imprint, a sports law expert said. Any agreement would have to also play by Russian rules, the expert added.

"Clearly, there might be differences in terms



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Queens Center - Quails

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Phone swipe on G train

84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights—
DUMBO—Boerum Hill—
Downtown

An elderly man tried and failed to chase down the young punk who snatched his phone on a G train on March 10, cops said.

The spry victim said he was on a Church Avenue-bound G at 2:58 pm when the rascal, who seemed to be about 15 years old, grabbed his phone and darted out of the train at the Bergen Street station, authorities stated.

The 65-year-old chased the teen out of the Warren Street exit of the station, ran to Court Street and all the way down to Union Street before losing sight of him, according to a police report.

An employee said the crook walked into the store between Albee Square and Duffield Street at 1:33 pm and started grabbing the stuff.

When they tried to stop him, he threatened them with a pipe, police said.

Locker raid

A crook broke into a guy's locker while he exercised at a gym on Livingston Street on March 14, cops said.

The 45-year-old fitness buff said he went to work out at the establishment near Bond Street at 7 pm and, by the time he had finished at 8:45, someone had busted his lock and filched his wallet and watch.

Run the jewels
There were two separate jewelry store thefts on March 15 and 16. Here's how they went down.

A burglar broke into a jewelry store on Fulton Street sometime overnight on

March 15 and stole \$3,000 worth of jewelry equipment but no jewelry, cops said.

Owners said they locked up the store at 7:30 pm on March 15 and, when they opened up at 10 the next morning, they found two closets broken into and the gear gone.

Officers found a bent knife at the scene, and the screws removed from a latch on the back door, they said.

In a separate incident on March 16, police arrested a 39-year-old fellow at another Fulton Street jewelry store when an employee saw him shoo earrings, sunglasses, and other merchandise into his coat pockets before walking out the door, according to a police report.

An employee said the crook walked into the store between Albee Square and Duffield Street at 1:33 pm and started grabbing the stuff.

When they tried to stop him, he threatened them with a pipe, police said.

Tech capital

An opportunistic thief snagged a laptop from the front office of a Dumbo tech company on March 10 while its owner used the bathroom,

police said.

The employee told police she left a desk near the entrance to the office on Main Street between Front and Water streets at 12:45 pm and, upon returning from the loo 15 minutes later, found the computer was gone.

Unhappy ending

A ruffian attacked an actress for her purse as she tried to enter a residence on State Street on March 9, cops reported.

The lady stated that she was leaving her apartment between Joralemon and State streets at 11 pm when the raider grabbed her arm and tried to grab her phone out of her hand. She threw him off and he ran away, according to a police report.

The 66-year-old thespian told cops she was climbing the stairs to the building between Court and Clinton streets at 11 pm when the villain came up from

behind and pulled her back down to the sidewalk. The lout then pushed her to the ground, snatched the purse, and took off down the street, according to cops.

The bag contained keys, an appointment book, credit cards, a Screen Actors Guild union card, and \$60 in cash, the lady said.

Break many 20s

A burglar busted through a Smith Street eatery's glass door and stole more than \$5,000 from an automated teller machine sometime between March 11 and 12, cops said.

The 59-year-old car-owner said he parked his ride between Dean and Pacific streets at 5 am and, when he returned at 5:48 pm the wallet was gone.

Fight back

A would-be robber got more than he bargained for when a Henry Street woman fought him off as he tried to snatch her phone on March 13, police reported.

The lady stated that she was leaving her apartment between Joralemon and State streets at 11 pm when the raider grabbed her arm and tried to grab her phone out of her hand. She threw him off and he ran away, according to a police report.

The 66-year-old thespian told cops she was climbing the stairs to the building between Court and Clinton streets at 11 pm when the villain came up from

POLICE BLOTTER

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BrooklynPaper.com/blotter

a Fulton Mall department store into a plastic bag before walking out the door on March 11, according to authorities.

The security guard at the store between Gallatin Place and Hoyt Street said the sticky-fingered so-and-so entered at 10:40 am, and left five minutes later with the goods in a bag from the same store he was ripping off.

Opportunist

A scalawag snatched a man's wallet from inside an unlocked, parked automobile on Nevins Street on March 14.

The 59-year-old car-owner said he parked his ride between Dean and Pacific streets at 5 am and, when he returned at 5:48 pm the wallet was gone.

Manicure snatched

The owner reported she locked up the eatery between Saint Felix Street and Fort Greene Place at 11 pm on March 16 and, when she opened the doors at 11 am the next day, she found that the register and bank machine had been busted into. The burglars also took an electronic tablet and an electric bike, according to a report.

The owner told authorities it looked like the crook came in through a vent in the ceiling and left through the back door.

The other two break-ins occurred at neighboring eateries on DeKalb Avenue between Ashland Place and Saint Felix Street overnight on March 20, cops reported.

Both owners reported they came in to find their back doors unlocked and their registers smashed.

Mean to teens

Police said three bullies robbed a couple of teens of a phone and cash on Adelphi Street on March 20.

The teens recalled that they were standing around between DeKalb and Lafayette avenues at 4 pm, when three bullies in hoodies came over and asked for the time.

When the youths hesitated, the brutes forced them to fork over their stuff, police said.

Bad afternoon

Cops cuffed a 39-year-old man who they say tried to rob a guy on Park Avenue on March 22.

The 20-year-old victim told officers he was walking on the sidewalk between Cumberland Street and Carlton Avenue at 1:18 pm when the suspect approached and asked him for money, then demanded it.

"Do you have money? Give me some money," the villain supposedly said.

The victim refused, and when the galoot started going through his pockets, he told him to stop, authorities said. The ruffian then punched him in the mouth and in the eye, at which time cops showed up and slapped cuffs on the bad guy, according to a report.

Hand-bagged

A sneak snatched a woman's purse out of her hand while she stood on Fulton Street on March 18, cops said.

The 44-year-old victim related that she was talking on her phone near Hudson Avenue at 3:30 pm when the rascal approached from Rockwell Place, snuck up behind her, and grabbed her Gucci bag. The purse contained money orders, a MetroCard, and an insurance card, police stated.

Bus bust

Cops busted a 53-year-old on Fulton Street who they say lifted a wallet from a woman's purse on a bus on March 18.

The 47-year-old victim reported she noticed the guy take her wallet while she rode the bus at 5 pm. Cops arrested the suspect when the bus stopped near Flatbush Avenue.

Roaming fees

A goon grabbed a 25-year-old woman's phone and ran to a nearby apartment building on Classon Avenue on March 19, cops said.

The lady said she was walking along Classon at 1 pm when the fiend came up from behind near the intersection with Lafayette Ave-

88TH PRECINCT

Fort Greene—Clinton Hill Road rage

A driver got out of his car and hit a delivery guy with a club after a near-crash on Lafayette Avenue on March 22, according to cops.

The 53-year-old delivery man told police he was driving his scooter at the intersection of Carlton Avenue at 7:15 pm, and almost got creamed by a blue four-door sedan.

He and the driver were arguing when the driver jumped out of his car with a club drawn, cops said. The maniacal motorist whacked the unlucky worker with a club, got back in his car, and drove away, police said.

Intensive snare

A quick crook stole a backpack from a doctor's office on S. Portland Avenue on March 21, police said.

The 40-year-old doctor who keeps an office between Fulton and Lafayette streets told cops she was seeing a patient at 9 am and left the door to her office open. The scoundrel grabbed a backpack containing a laptop, an electronic tablet, and a phone, according to authorities.

Take in threes

Police are on the hunt for the burglar or burglars responsible for three break-ins at neighborhood businesses this week.

The first happened at a Chinese food restaurant on Fulton Street, overnight on March 17, police said.

The owner reported she locked up the eatery between Saint Felix Street and Fort Greene Place at 11 pm on March 16 and, when she returned at 2:30 pm the next day. The bag contained her driver's license, debit and credit cards, and prescription medication, cops said.

— Matthew Perlman

76TH PRECINCT

Carroll Gardens—Cobble Hill—Red Hook

Ten-on-one

Cops cuffed five toughs who they say attacked a guy on Hicks Street and West Ninth Street on March 18.

The 25-year-old victim told police he was walking to work around 4:25 pm when he saw a group of 10 scary characters approaching. The unlucky sap immediately turned on his heels, cops said.

"Come here!" one of the goons supposedly growled.

One of the brutes threw a brick at the victim's chest as another whacked him with a stick, police said. A few other ruffians held the victim down and punched him in the chest, cops reported.

Police arrested five fellows — one 27-year-old, two 20-year-olds, an 18-year-old, and a 19-year-old — and charged them with gang assault.

Hall monitored

Cops cuffed a man who they say attempted to pilfer packages from an apartment on Huntington Street on March 21, cops said.

A witness said he saw the 56-year-old prowler trying to pry open the door of an apartment between Court and Smith streets with a chisel around 3:12 pm and called the police, who found the suspect in possession of a flashlight, a pair of pliers, a screwdriver, and a knife. The guy was charged with burglary.

Test of authority

An elderly man was arrested for trespassing in the Gowanus Industrial Park on March 21, according to police.

A woman said she saw the 67-year-old fellow stroll onto the 46-acre property around 4:10 pm despite giant yellow signs that read, "No trespassing." Cops say security guards approached the man and asked, "What are you doing here?"

"What are you doing here?" the gentleman supposedly responded.

Cops charged the man with criminal trespassing.

Bagman

Police arrested a man who they say stole from a clothing store on Smith Street on March 22.

A 24-year-old woman reported she saw the supposed shoplifter, 17, stuff stolen stuff into a bag as he left the store between Douglass and Butler streets around 10:55 am. Police arrested the teen and say he had \$301 worth of items with him.

Grease 3

A grease-scalded man was arrested for allegedly beating a woman on Baltic Street on March 12, cops said.

The 33-year-old suspect and 33-year-old woman got into a fight between Hoyt and Bond Streets around 10:20 am, police stated. The brawl got uglier when the guy picked her up and slammed her to the ground, according to a police report. The woman threw hot grease in the supposed assailant's face as she tried to get away, according to authorities.

See **BLOTTER** on page 16

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Massive fire in G'point

By Danielle Furfaro

The Brooklyn Paper

A massive fire tore through a Greenpoint newspaper recycling plant overnight last Tuesday night and into Wednesday morning, leaving plumes of acrid smoke hanging over the neighborhood.

The fire at Rapid Processing Recycling Plant, which is on the corner of Humboldt Street and Greenpoint Avenue, started just after 7 pm on Tuesday night.

The blaze drew 169 firefighters from 39 units as it raged through the night, completely destroying the facility.

Firefighters finally got



The Rapid Processing plant was completely destroyed by the four-alarm fire.

the inferno under control at 8:49 am on Wednesday, but continued to douse hot spots throughout the day.

Neighbors say they could see — and smell — the conflagration half a mile away.

"It really stunk," said Greenpoint resident Michael Hoffman.

Hoffman said that neighbors have been encouraging each other to call 311 to ask the city to test for toxins in the ashes of the plant.

"That stuff will stay around for life," said Hoffman. "We need to know what is in there."

One firefighter suffered a minor injury while battling the blaze, according to a fire official.

The fire department is still investigating the cause of the conflagration.

ALE...

Continued from page 1
ditional Chinese medicinal dishes. His recipe is a far cry from the syrupy likes of Canada Dry, incorporating chunks of fresh ginger, ginseng, and astragalus, an herb in the pea family.

He made batches at home and continued selling them when he opened a chain of restaurants in the Midwest and found a crowd of new customers thirsty for his product.

"Wherever we were, it would sell," said Cost. "It could be 30 below in Minnesota and people would order this drink."

Cost, who also once wrote a book on ginger, moved back to New York in 2010 and set up shop in a dumpling factory in Williamsburg, just a few blocks from his new home.

"We jury-rigged equipment in part of this noodle factory and it grew pretty quickly," said Cost. "We had to make up the machinery."

The company now makes a handful of flavors, including original, jasmine, passion fruit, and pomegranate, and the bottles are ubiquitous in fancy New York food stores. Currently, Cost distributes to Whole Foods Market, Fairway Market, and shops in Williamsburg and Downtown. The drink is also a favorite in the Google offices in both Manhattan and Silicon Valley, Cost said.

Before the latest move, the company was making 15,000-25,000 cases of soda

per month. The new facility has space to turn out more than 10 times that amount, but Cost says the increase in production will be slow.

Cost said he is excited

The suds of time

Exploring Brooklyn's soda-making past

By Danielle Furfaro

The Brooklyn Paper

Bruce Cost Ginger Ale, the small-scale soda manufacturer upgrading its Williamsburg operation, is not the first soft-drink-maker to set up shop in the borough.

Manhattan Special has been making its famous coffee-soda drink on Manhattan Avenue in Greenpoint since 1895, when an entrepreneur had the cool idea of developing a cold beverage for espresso-addicted Italians to drink on hot days.

"Italians love their espresso," said Aurora Passaro, co-owner of the company founded by her ancestor Michael Garucco. "We gave them a new way to drink it."

Manhattan Specials' coffee-drink flavors are cappuccino, French hazelnut, and mocha. The sodas also come in cherry, orange, sarsaparilla, vanilla cream, and Italian gassosa (lemon-lime) varieties.

Across town in Cobble Hill, a new business is serving up carbonated beverages the old-fash-



Farmacy employee Justin Rubin serves up a fresh pair of egg creams.

ioned way — at a soda fountain.

Brooklyn Farmacy only opened in 2010, but harkens back to the days when soda was a drink young Brooklynites nursed at a bar while gabbing with friends and poring over the latest comics.

"We're celebrating the origin of sodas in soda fountains and pharmacies as a concept that was big in a really great time in Amer-

ica," said co-owner Peter Freeman.

Only in this day and age, homemade syrups and seltzers like the Farmacy's are not the norm and the place wears its old-timey vibe as a badge of honor. Server Justin Rubin whips up egg creams wearing newsboy outfits and the Farmacy hosts folk music performances and throwback events such as silent-movie nights and live disc-jockeying — on a phonograph.



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A green-thumbs up!

Eco-conscious Carroll Gardens school takes award

By Megan Riesz
The Brooklyn Paper

They let their green flag fly. The Brooklyn New School celebrated winning an award recognizing its green-thumb education innovations on Monday. The elementary school bagged a Green Flag award from the National Wildlife Federation and eco-minded pupils took full advantage of the opportunity to gab about their planet-cleaning efforts, a school rep said.

"It was great to see the kids talk about the work they do," said Johanna Esteras, the school's sustainability coordinator. Her title goes to show that the school does not treat going green as some extracurricular activity.

"It's not an add-on — it's part of our curriculum," Esteras said.

About 20 proud kids who have built habitats for birds



Brooklyn New School first-grader Kestrel Goldberg Little holds a flowerpot that she made in class.

and looked at ways to improve the fetid Gowanus Canal presented their projects to Councilman Brad Lander (D—Park Slope) and reps from the Department of Education's Sustainability Initiative. The students all beamed with pride as they flipped through the PowerPoint presentations and gave speeches, according to Esteras.

"The hard work they have been doing has paid off," she said.

The school has an "eco-action" team that has built up green space and biodiversity on school grounds, reduced lunchroom trash by using pulp trays instead of Styrofoam, and transformed juice pouches and other materials into art projects.

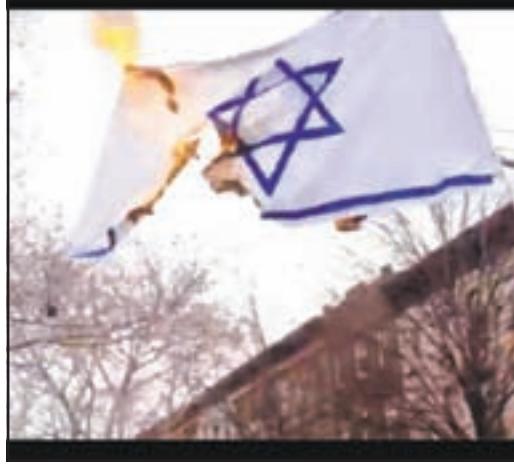
Students, who learn about sustainability starting in kindergarten, also recycle and compost a majority of their cafeteria food waste, the school said.

Activist condemns Purim flag-burning

By Danielle Furfar
The Brooklyn Paper

A Satmar Hasidic gadfly said an Israeli flag in Williamsburg during a raucous Purim celebration last week does not represent his people.

A journalist caught the action on video and posted it online last Monday. In the clip, a tightly-packed circle of ultra-Orthodox Jewish revelers, some dressed in holiday costumes, chant and dance as a handful of merrymakers ignite the flag and raise it above the crowd and community affairs cops half-heartedly try to push the party back, away from the falling embers. A member of the Satmar sect says his group opposes Israel because a Jewish state does not jibe with the sect's strict interpretation of the Torah, but that the flag-burnings, which have been happening in Williamsburg for years, reflect poorly on the larger Satmar community.



Ultra-Orthodox Jews burned an Israeli flag in protest during a Williamsburg Purim celebration on March 16.

"We are against Zionism, but we do not believe that this is a tactic that should be done," said Community Board 1 member and Sat-

mar adherent Simon Weiser. "The people who do this are a fringe of extremist, and they make us all look bad."

The arsonists will not be



Simon Weiser
File photo by Ben Nassig

shunned, because they keep to themselves, but they do not have the sanction of any official group, said Weiser.

"There has never been a Satmar rabbi who has permitted or endorsed this action," he said.

The clip has found its way onto international Jewish news websites and racked up more than 11,000 views in nine days. The video ignited online debates over whether the flag-burnings fall within the bounds of appropriate protest, or even whether Satmar followers should be allowed Israeli citizenship.

Among other beefs with the Israeli government, Satmar members oppose mandatory military conscription.

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Signs of life in LICH bidding

Four of the nine new proposals planning to keep hospital a hospital

By Megan Riesz
The Brooklyn Paper



HOSPITALS IN CRISIS

A slate of newcomers to the state's bidding war over the prime real estate Long Island College Hospital sits on or giving Brooklynites a gasping chance at keeping a hospital on the site.

Four of nine healthcare company-developer partnerships that submitted bids in the latest round of proposals to buy the 155-year-old medical facility from the state call for keeping it a hospital, while the others would turn it into apartment complexes with healthcare components, according to the bids, which were made public over the weekend. Community activists who sued the university for attempting to shutter the hospital have long fought to keep it full service. None have yet endorsed a specific proposal, but having nearly half of the companies in the running agree with the activists' stated goal is a solid start, one said.

"The four hospital bidders

agreement Partners. Company honchos say Brooklyn has a serious shortage of hospital care.

"This is an integrated-care delivery system to meet the needs of the Brooklyn community so they have a legitimate, ultra-modern choice for healthcare in Brooklyn," said Scott Phillips, managing director for Healthcare Management Partners.

A group called the Brooklyn Health Partners wants to build a new 300- to 400-bed hospital and offer ambulatory care, intensive care, and other medical services during construction of the new facility. The company would also

build the Brooklyn Medical District, a campus of medical offices, commercial spaces, and market-rate and below-market-rate housing, according to the plan.

Another California-based hospital management corporation, Prime Healthcare Services, wants to re-open 16 of Long Island College Hospital's closed operating

rooms as part of a hospital that would start off with 100 beds. The company, which operates 25 acute care centers across the nation, would provide surgeries, maternity care, and a host of other inpatient and outpatient services, its plan states. Prime Healthcare lists the State University of New York, which is selling the hospital after fighting for a year to close it, as a client.

The Chinese Community Accountable Care Organization was a bidder in the last round of proposals, which was halted by the lawsuit settlement that reopened bidding and rejigged the process to favor plans with larger medical components. The organization re-submitted a plan for a full-service hospital that would open with 150 beds and grow to accommodate as many as 250. The plan has the financial backing of former Republican mayoral candidate John Catsimatidis and former deputy mayor Rudy Washington. It

also calls for an emergency room and walk-in ambulatory services.

The State University of New York could choose a plan at an April 3 board meeting, a spokesman said. The hospital will close in May if no company steps up to keep it running, according to the terms of the court settlement.

The basics of the five non-hospital plans are as follows*:

The Cuomo-donor plan

Medical provider: New York University Langone Medical Center and Lutheran Family Health Centers

Developer: L&M Development Partners, Fortis Property Group, Full Spectrum NY, LLC, and KF Brock

Medical facilities: Ambulatory surgery center, cancer center

Housing: Rental units, condos, and townhouses, one quarter of them below-market-rate

Measures to retain jobs: Expected to employ about 200 union workers in non-clinical jobs as well as 26 non-physician employees, all of whom will be members of the New York State Nurses Association or Service Employees International Union 1199

Retail: No
Uses existing buildings: Yes

Time to complete: About one year

Fun facts: Fortis Property Group president Joel Kestenbaum gave Gov. Cuomo's reelection campaign \$5,000 last

November, while his uncle Moshe—who is not a partner in the firm—gave \$12,500

in Jan. 2014. Cuomo, as The Brooklyn Paper has documented, controls the State University of New York, whose representatives effectively have final say in choosing a buyer for the hospital.

The state was considering the Fortis bid alone in December, when university trustees delayed a vote amid cries from hospital advocates to put the brakes on the proceedings until the bidding process was made public and others had a chance to put their hats in the ring.

The developer-only plan

Medical provider: Unknown

Developer: Chetrit Group, FX Fowle

Medical facilities: 100

inpatient beds divided among observation, intensive care, behavioral, and long-term acute care units, as well as an emergency department and community health center

Housing: Apartments, one third of them below-market-rate

Measures to retain jobs: No

Retail: Unclear

Uses existing buildings: Yes

Time to complete: One year

Fun facts: Chetrit Group is one of two developer behind a hot-button, 23-story apartment tower planned for Prospect Lefferts Gardens, as well as the conversion of a former Brooklyn Hospital

Housing: Yes, no further details

Measures to retain

Center building in Flatbush into a residential complex where, Brownstoner reports, studios will start at \$1,999 per month.

The finger-on-the-pulse plan

Medical provider: Unknown

Developer: Lana Acquisitions

Medical facilities: Dialysis center, ambulatory surgery center, family planning department, mental health clinic, nursing home, assisted-living facility

Housing: Unclear

Measures to retain jobs: Will hire Long Island College staffers "whenever possible"

Retail: Unclear

Uses existing buildings: Yes

Time to complete: 12 to 18 months

Fun facts: Lana Acquisitions honcho George Weinberger is chairman of the Board of Trustees of New York Community Hospital in Midwood. His partner is Allen Gross, head of GFI Development Company, which describes itself on its website as a "developer that focuses on opportunistic projects in major metropolitan areas."

GFI was behind the notorious so-called "finger building" in Williamsburg.

The other Cuomo-donor plan

Medical provider: The Brooklyn Hospital Center

Developer: Blue Wolf Capital Fund, III, L.P., and Related Companies

Medical facilities: Two off-site health care centers, two urgent care centers

Housing: Some below-market-rate housing

Measures to retain jobs: Would provide preferential hiring to qualified Long Island College Hospital employees for 24 months

Retail: Unclear

Uses existing buildings: Yes

Time to complete: Two to three years

Fun facts: Related Companies founder Stephen Ross gave Gov. Cuomo \$5,000 last year. A company spokeswoman has denied that the money was meant to buy favor for its hospital-gutting plan.

*Editor's note: Our last guide to Long Island College Hospital redevelopment proposals included the category "Emergency room." Each of the five non-hospital plans claims to include emergency facilities, but emergency rooms are by definition departments of hospitals, so we have removed the category from consideration.

Cocktails for park-lovers

Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy thinks young

By Matthew Perlman
The Brooklyn Paper

Park stewards had some fun inside for a change on Monday night.

On top of coming up with cash, organizers of the Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy's annual cocktail party and fund-raiser aimed to bring some new blood in through the doors of the Dumbo venue.

"Our park was founded by community advocates 25 years ago," said Rachel Fletcher, a spokeswoman for the conservancy. "We're looking to find people to pick up the baton."

The event convened the conservancy's Currents Council, which focuses on attracting young scions and civic activists to get involved with funding and running the sprawling green space between Brooklyn Heights.

"We are the young professionals group," said Hilary Tholen, a Currents member.



The Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy's young people committee hosted its annual shindig at Superfine in Dumbo on March 24.

"It's the next generation of supporters for the park."

The mixed-drink sipping action took place at the bar Superfine on Front Street.

About 150 people turned out for the occasion, paying between \$25 and \$40 for admission. A raffle featured prizes donated by local businesses including Las-

sen and Hennings, Brooklyn Heights Cinema, and Noodie Pudding.

Organizers said bringing people out to a watering hole under the Manhattan Bridge was a good way to keep them thinking about the park during its hibernation phase.

"We wanted to engage

our constituents during the non-park, colder months," said Tholen. "It was really fun."

The conservancy funds programming at the waterfront park, provides volunteers to assist with its upkeep, and fishes for donors to help cover the park's big projects. Its programs include movie screenings, fitness classes, and concerts, as well as fun one-offs like its recent snow-sculpting contest.

State Sen. Daniel Squadron (D-Brooklyn Heights), whose district includes the park, is pushing a bill to skim a fifth of the money raised by posh park conservancies such as the Prospect Park Alliance and redistribute it to greenswards in poor areas that have no such support. But Brooklyn Bridge Park is privately funded and outside the purview of the city's parks department, so it, and the Conservancy, would not be affected should the law pass.

who responded to our call to form partnerships with existing organizations to create financial literacy programs throughout the borough. And we are moving straight ahead with that initiative.

BE: There was some confusion earlier this month at a Borough Hall event about your One Brooklyn charity because it hadn't been registered yet. Have you finally gotten that paperwork in the mail?

EA: There was no confusion at that meeting. We had 100 business leaders there

Continued from page 1

per-hour idea for places like that. I'm glad to see that people now see that's possible. Our streets have changed. The ways we use them has changed.

BE: There was some confusion earlier this month at a Borough Hall event about your One Brooklyn charity because it hadn't been registered yet. Have you finally gotten that paperwork in the mail?

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Continued from page 1

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Fun facts: Fortis Property Group president Joel Kestenbaum gave Gov. Cuomo's reelection campaign \$5,000 last

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BE: My counsel handles all that, so you'll need to ask him.

EA: You've had a lot of events at Borough Hall since

you took office. What kind of events are coming up?

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(718) 260-2500

The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

March 28–April 3, 2014

Top '90s Brooklyn hip-hop tunes

Brooklyn has always been a fixture of hip-hop lyrics — from 1984's "Do Or Die Bed Stuy" by Divine Sounds to 2009's "Coney Island" by Marco Polo and Tora. To celebrate the '90s Hip Hop and R&B Sing-Along" taking place at Union Hall on March 28, we have picked out some of our favorite borough-centric tracks from the decade.

Jay-Z, "Where I'm From"

Jay-Z lives in a multi-million-dollar apartment in Manhattan these days, but this 1997 track paid tribute to his childhood in Bedford-Stuyvesant's Marcy Houses. The lyrics cover drugs, violence, and prostitution, anchored by the hook, "Cough up a lung, where I'm from, Marcy son, ain't nothing nice. Mentally been many places but I'm Brooklyn's own."

Ol' Dirty Bastard, "Brooklyn Zoo"

The late Ol' Dirty Bastard was a founding member of the Wu-Tang Clan, growing up in Brooklyn with his cousins and fellow hip-hop crew members RZA and GZA. This song appeared on ODB's first solo album in 1995. The track is mostly a tirade against an unnamed nemesis, but the chorus at the end of the song shows some love for his home borough — "Shame on you when you step through to, the Ol' Dirty Bastard, Brooklyn Zoo!"

Notorious BIG, "Unbelievable"

One of the kings of '90s hip-hop, Notorious BIG naturally hails from Kings County. His 1994 album "Ready to Die" helped launch a coastal rap war, and includes many autobiographical songs about BIG's upbringing. "Unbelievable" starts out with this — "Live from Bedford-Stuyvesant, the liveliest one. Representing BK to the fullest."

Mos Def, "Brooklyn"

This native son performed in the group Black Star with Talib Kweli in the '90s, but released this gem of a track on his first solo album in 1999. The song is a long love-letter to the borough that bred him, and include references to its Dutch roots, Fulton Mall, and many neighborhoods.

Beastie Boys, "Hello Brooklyn"

Okay, this song technically misses the '90s mark — it came out in 1989. But we had to include a song from the Beasties following the 1980s borough anthem "No Sleep till Brooklyn." "Hello Brooklyn" starts off with a reference to the Leonard Bernstein song "New York, New York" — "New York is a hell of a town. The Bronx is up and I'm Brooklyn down." It ends with a nod to Johnny Cash — "I ride around town cause my ride is fly. I shot a man in Brooklyn just to watch him die."

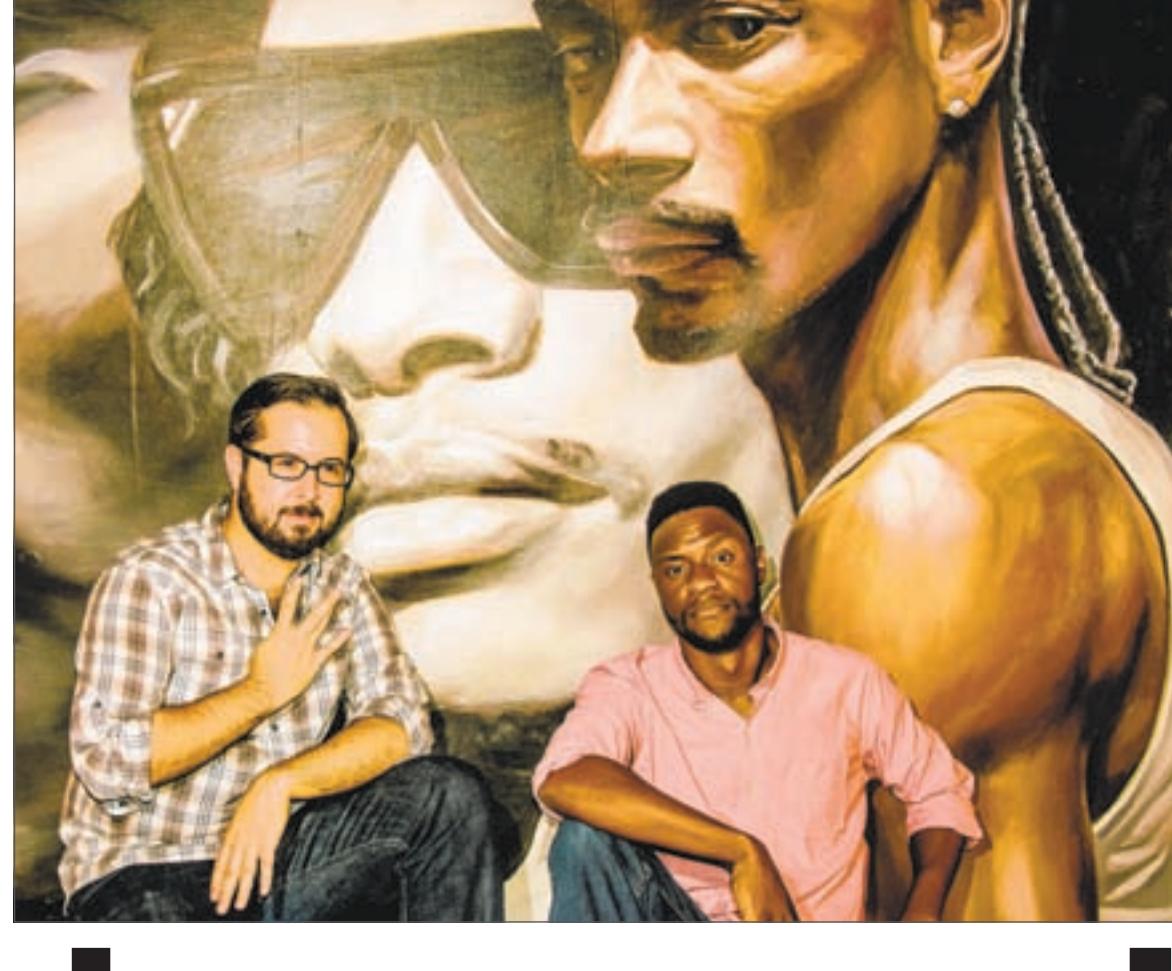


Photo by Seth Wenzel

**BOOKS****Pot pops**

Take your kid to work day? Forget about it. Park Slope journalist Tony Dokoupil has penned many articles on drug policy and culture throughout his career — something his childhood left him oddly prepared to do.

Dokoupil's dad is a notorious former drug smuggler known as "Big Tony," who allegedly secreted 50 tons of pot into the US before he was arrested when Dokoupil was 10 year old. Now in his early 30s, the writer has published a memoir about his estranged father, using his investigative skills to piece his dad's past together, and explain his sordid story against the backdrop of South Florida in the 1970s and '80s.

"When I talk about him selling a kilo of Mexican pot to his sister — who was in high school at time — I talk about what it was like to do that in 1971," he said of his new book, "The Last Pirate: A Father, His Son, and the Golden Age of Marijuana," which he will plug at Park Slope's Community Bookstore on April 2.

Dokoupil said his father started out as an amateur dealer, but eventually began pulling in six figures moving Mexican and Colombian dope up the East Coast of the United States. When the feds caught Big Tony in the '80s, Dokoupil's parents split, and he severed ties with his dad.

Two decades later, Dokoupil — who is now a senior writer at NBC digital — reconnected with his father for a 2009 Newsweek article titled "My Father the Drug Dealer."

The government subsequently released additional case files on Big Tony and his partners, prompting Dokoupil to dig deeper and write "The Last Pirate."

At the Community Bookstore event, Dokoupil will be joined by journalist Bruce Porter (of "Blow" fame) in a discussion about reporting on drug culture — a beat where Dokoupil said his family has actually been an asset.

"The legacy that I have was attractive to sources," he said. "The only reason they let me in to see their operations was because they liked where I came from."

Tony Dokoupil at Community Bookstore [143 Seventh Ave, between Carroll Street and Garfield Place in Park Slope, (718) 783-3075, www.communitybookstore.net]. April 2 at 7 pm. Free.

— Max Jaeger

ART**Art blows up**

Talk about art that pops!

The artists behind Succulent Studios, a new gallery in Greenpoint, are hosting an opening celebration that will feature art made from thousands of balloons.

"The beauty of the balloon is that it creates a childlike response in people. Balloons are so innocent and happy," said the artist known as Sek3, who is one of the organizers of the show. "It really opens people up to other art."

Artists Cern and Addi Sonrekh are collaborating on a massive balloon sculpture that will be exhibited at the opening. Sonrekh will build the sculpture and then Cern will paint it.

Sek3 and Cern both came out of the graffiti and street art crew YMI, a group that gained notoriety when it contributed to the artwork in the Graffiti Hall of Fame.

Since then, they have turned to more traditional forms of art. Last year, the pair hosted a pop-up gallery in Miami Beach during Art Basel.

"We have a lineage coming from the birth of graffiti all the way to the collaboration between graffiti and fine art," said Sek3. "We've got a lot of that excitement. It is a rock and roll kind of feel."

The sculptures won't be the only inflatable pieces on display at the launch event — women will also be walking around in bikinis made of tiny balloons.

Balloons will not always be in display at the gallery, but Succulent Studios plans to continue to mine works and performances that are at the intersection of street art and fine art. The organizers said they wanted to highlight this diversity of styles and mediums at the opening, inviting some 30 artists to exhibit their work.

"We want to create a positive experience that is not tied to any particular art scene," said Cern.

Gallery Opening at Succulent Studios [67 West St, Suite 522, between Noble and Mulberry streets in Greenpoint, succbk.com]. March 29 at 6:30 pm. Free.

— Danielle Furfarro

Sing along to '90s rap and R&B classics

By Matthew Perlman

*The Brooklyn Paper***H**ere's the scenario.

On March 28, Union Hall is hosting a night of hip-hop and R&B classics from the 1990s. You can sip on some gin and juice, go insane in the brain, or just kick it — the choice is yours. But you should definitely sing along.

"It's sort of like group karaoke," said Michael Austin, who has been hosting sing-alongs of various stripes around the borough for the past five years. "Everyone's singing together, belting out these songs from their childhood."

Austin has hosted events at Union Hall, on Union Street between Fifth and Sixth avenues, once a month for the last three years. But the '90s Hip-Hop and R&B Sing-Along" night is one of his favorites, as, in the immortal words of Destiny's Child, the club is jumpin' jumpin'.

"It's nonstop jumping up and down, and grinding," he said. "It's way sexier than any other sing-along we do — even sexier than the Prince sing-along."

In addition to playing tracks from artists such as Vanilla Ice, Puff Daddy, and House of Pain, Austin and co-host Jerry Mouse also project music videos with lyrics onto a screen so everyone can feel so good.

"There's some amazing music videos that people forget about," Austin said.

Singers are encouraged to do some big pimplin' and wear their favorite '90s clothing — think ski goggles, Starter jackets,



Photo by Wolfgang Lian

Party ain't a party: The crowd belts it out at a previous "sing-along" event. (Pictured top) Hosts Michael Austin, left, and Jerry Mouse practise their moves for their "'90s Hip-Hop and R&B Sing-Along" at Union Hall.

MUSIC

"'90s Hip-Hop and R&B Sing-Along" at Union Hall [702 Union St, between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400, www.unionhallny.com]. March 28 at 9:30 pm. \$8.

and backwards Cross Colours jeans — or dress like celebrities from that flavorful bygone era.

And while the show is not all about the

Benjamins, there are prizes to be won in both a costume contest and dance-off.

The bar will also be serving '90s-themed cocktails, with names such as "Motown-philly."

Even if you do not fancy yourself as a ghetto superstar, you can still have fun just watching the whole crowd try to keep up with songs such as Busta Rhymes' "Gimme Some More."

"It's fun to watch like 200 people trying to rap really fast," said Austin.

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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

FRIDAY

March 28



Chamber of concerts

Local chamber-pop eight-piece San Fermin is playing its acclaimed 2013 self-titled album in its entirety, from start to finish, live for the first time. Classical group Ensemble LPR will join the band to recreate the full orchestral experience.

9 pm at Bric House Ballroom [647 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 683-5600, www.bricartsmedia.org/; \$18-\$22].

SATURDAY

March 29

Six-feet sluggers

Take me out to the graveyard! Green-Wood Cemetery is celebrating the start of the baseball season with an historical tour of the permanent dugouts where several of the game's great players and pioneers are buried. Residents include Excelsiors star James Creighton, big hitter Charlie Smith, and Dodgers owner Charles Ebbets.

1 pm at Green-Wood Cemetery [500 25th St. near Fifth Avenue in Greenwood Heights, (718) 768-7300, www.green-wood.com/]. \$20.



7 pm and 9 pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church [334 S. Fifth St. between Rodney and Keppel streets, www.oneofuswchapel.com/; \$15-\$20].

SUNDAY

March 30



Sacred art

This is not your average Sunday church service. On March 28 and 30, St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Williamsburg will play host to a series of immersive, religion-inspired performances throughout the building from a collective of local artists. The line-up sounds both bizarre and fascinating, with works including "an interactive ritual cleansing" and "a high-stakes game of scrabble."

7:30 pm at Littlefield [622 Degraw St. between Fourth and Third Avenues, in Gowanus, (718) 855-3388, www.littlefieldnyc.com/]. \$10-\$12.

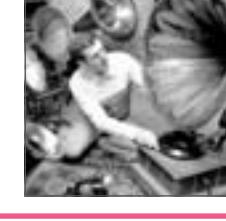
TUESDAY

April 1

Music masters

This is one for the know-it-all music nerds (you know who you are). Long-running trivia contest the Big Quiz Thing is heading to Littlefield to host a countdown of its top 40 music trivia questions from past shows. If that does not give you enough opportunity to show off, there will also be karaoke with a live backing band before the show and between rounds.

7 pm at Littlefield [622 Degraw St. between Fourth and Third Avenues, in Gowanus, (718) 855-3388, www.littlefieldnyc.com/]. \$10-\$12.



THURSDAY

April 3



All that jazz

The Central Brooklyn Jazz Festival kicks off March 28 and runs through April 30, with some 50 bands a musicians playing shows around the borough. And you can see one of its biggest name acts for free, when singer Emeline Michel — known as the "Joni Mitchell of Haiti" — brings her blend of jazz, blues, and samba to the Central Library.

7 pm at Central Library, Dweck Center [10 Grand Army Plaza between Eastern Parkway and Flatbush Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 230-2100, www.bklyn-publiclibrary.org/. Free.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, MARCH 28

FILM, "NEW VOICES IN BLACK CINEMA": Narrative and documentary films showcasing the depth and diversity of the African-American experience. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org/.

ART, "THE WAY YOU LOOK IS THE WAY I FEEL": New sculptural paintings by Reed Anderson. **Free.** 11 am–6 pm. Pierogi Gallery [177 North 9th St. between Bedford and Driggs avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 599-2144], www.pierogi2000.com.

ART, "STATIONS OF THE CROSS": Artist reception for in-church installation by Audrey Frank Anastasi. **Free.** 7–8 pm. Church of St. Luke and St. Matthew [520 Clinton Ave. between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 638-0686], audreyanastasi.com.

THEATER, "DEAD END": Five teenagers struggle with extreme wealth and poverty in a divided New York City. \$15–25. 7:30 pm. Irondale Center [85 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 488-9233], www.irondale.org.

COMEDY, "LOL HEALS": An evening of comedy and art to support organ donation awareness. \$20. 7:30 pm. Standard ToyKraft [722 Metropolitan Ave., near Graham Avenue in Williamsburg], speakearthinfo.wordpress.com.

THEATER, "THE TRESTLE AT POPE LICK CREEK": Two teenagers seek adventure and escape by racing trains in the 1930s. \$12 (\$10 students). 7:30 pm. The New Workshop Theater at Brooklyn College [2900 Bedford Ave. at Campus Road in Flatbush, (718) 951-4500].

THEATER, "MAID'S DOOR": Family drama written by Cheryl L. Davis. \$15–\$25 (children and seniors). \$12–\$15. 8 pm. Billie Holiday Theatre [1368 Fulton St. between Marcy and Brooklyn avenues in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 636-0918], www.thebillieholiday.org.

THEATER, "MEDEA": Classic Greek play of a woman avenging her husband's betrayal. 8 pm. Gallery Players [199 14th St., between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (212) 352-3101], www.galleryplayers.com.

THEATER, "RED VELVET": In London in 1833, a black American breaks precedent and plays Othello when another actor cannot perform. \$45–55. 8 pm. St. Ann's Warehouse [29 Jay St. between John and Plymouth streets in Dumbo, (718) 254-8779], www.stannswarehouse.org.

THEATER, "I'M MISERABLE BUT CHANGE SCARES ME": An existential sitcom about co-dependency and stagnation. \$20. 8 pm. Brick Theater [579 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg], bricktheater.org.

COMEDY, "POINT BREAK LIVE": LA's longest-running stage show comes to New York. \$26–\$41. 8 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Av-



Yep, they're still alive: Black Sabbath plays the Barclays Center on March 31.

venue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510], www.thebellhouseny.com.

SAT, MARCH 29

MUSIC, MONTY ALEXANDER: \$30–\$40. 8 pm. Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College [2900 Campus Rd., between Amerson Place and Kenilworth Place in Midwood, (718) 951-4500], www.brooklyncenteronline.org.

MUSIC, TONY GULLEY & FRIENDS: "Low Down, Down Home, Swampy Music." **Free.** 8 pm. Freddy's Bar [627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Greenwood Heights, (718) 768-0131], www.freddysbar.com.

MUSIC, KING CAKE, BIG HUGE, THRILLINGTON, FAYAWAY: \$8. 8:30 pm. Trash Bar [256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000], www.thetrashbar.com.

MUSIC, ENDLESS BOOGIE, MAGIK MARKERS, DJ MIKE WOLF: \$10. 9 pm. Union Pool [484 Union Ave. at Meeker Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 609-0484], www.myspace.com/unionpool.

MUSIC, THE NEW COOKERS: **Free.** 9 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

MUSIC, MARCEL DETTMANN, FUNCTION, ANTHONY PARASOLE: \$20–\$30. 10 pm. Output [74 Wythe Ave. at North 12th Street in Williamsburg, (917) 333-1000], [outputclub.com](http://www.outputclub.com).

MUSIC, BEN R. MACKIE, TRIPS, MA: \$7. 8 pm. Trash Bar [256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000], www.thetrashbar.com.

MUSIC, VIA AUDIO, ELIZABETH & THE CATAPULT, SPIRIT KID: \$10. 8:30 pm. Glasslands (289 Kent Ave. at S. Second Street in Williamsburg), www.glasslands.com.

MUSIC, GEEKING OUT: Comedy show featuring Kerri Doherty, Leslie Goshko and special guests. \$5. 8:30 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallny.com.

MON, MARCH 31

TALK, "AFTER THE FALL — HISTORY, ANATOMY AND THE SUBLIME": Visiting scholar Dr. Richard Barnett

<http://http://BrooklynPaper.com/Events>

leads four-part reading and discussion examining corporeal history and man's relationship with death. \$60. 6:45 pm. Morbid Anatomy Museum [543 Union St. at Nevins Street in Gowanus], www.morbidanatomymuseum.org.

READING, TOVA MIRVIS AND LARA VAPNYAR: Authors of "Visible City" and "The Scent of Pine." **Free.** 7:30 pm. Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 383-5030], www.thediamondbrooklyn.com.

SPORTS, SHUFFLEBOARD DOUBLES TOURNAMENT: \$6 per team. 7:30 pm. The Diamond [43 Franklin St. near Cayler Street in Greenpoint, (718) 230-2100], www.barclyscenter.com.

COMEDY, "WRESTLING MANIA": Monthly comedy series featuring the best and worst of pro wrestling. \$6. 8 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638–4400], www.unionhallny.com.

MUSIC, BLACK SABBATH WITH REIGNWOLF: \$59.50–\$129. 7:30 pm. Barclays Center [620 Atlantic Ave. at Pacific Street in Prospect Heights, (917) 618–6100], www.barclyscenter.com.

COMEDY, "WRESTLING MANIA": Monthly comedy series featuring the best and worst of pro wrestling. \$6. 8 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638–4400], www.unionhallny.com.

MUSIC, REVEREND VINCE ANDERSON AND HIS LOVE CHOIR: **Free.** 10:30 pm. Union Pool [484 Union Ave. at Meeker Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 609–0484], www.myspace.com/unionpool.

TUES, APRIL 1

GIRL SCOUT COOKIE POP-UP SHOP: Credit cards accepted. \$4. 3:30–7:30 pm. St. George's Episcopal Church [800 Marcy Ave. at Gates Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant], www.girlscoutsnyc.org.

MUSIC, ISAAC DARCHE: **Free.** 6 pm. Freddy's Bar [627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Greenpoint Heights, (718) 768–0131], www.freddysbar.com.

COMEDY, "GEEKING OUT": Comedy show featuring Kerri D

Show and smell!

Annual corpse contest celebrates freaky stuffed animals and storied skeletons

By Max Jaeger
The Brooklyn Paper

You don't have to take a dip in the Gowanus Canal to see some freaky creatures on April 6. Just a few blocks away, geeky event series the Secret Science Club will be hosting its annual "Carnivorous Nights Taxidermy Contest" at the Bell House. Devotees of the macabre can show off their finest stuffed beasts, weird skeletons, and just about anything else that is dead and preserved.

The evening is part art show, part storytelling competition, with contestants expected to spin tall and true tales about their beast's backstory in an effort to win prizes.

"It's a glorified show-and-tell," said judge Robert Marbury.

This is the seventh year the club has put on the event, and previous entries have included both the adorable and the abominable. One piece showed two kittens fighting over a ball of yarn — another was a chandelier made of goat heads, Marbury said.

Even the organizers don't know exactly what to expect from this year's batch.



Photo by Andie Robert Lee

Look at those chompers: Part piranha, part squirrel, this piece of taxidermy is all frightening.

"I sort of think I've seen everything, but then clearly I have not," said co-host Margaret Mittelbach.

Participants may enter found, purchased, or homemade taxidermy for a chance to win posterity and preternatural prizes. Judging will be in several categories, including "best in show," "most twisted," and "shock and awe."

Marbury has also added a new category, the "jump the shark award," because he suspects this edition's entrants will take the contest over the top — especially since the Museum of Morbid Anatomy started offering taxidermy lessons nearby.

Of course, the limits of taste are subjective. Organizer Dorian Devins

said someone tried to enter a human fetus one year, but the judges wouldn't allow it.

Judging is different from typical taxidermy competitions, which grade entrants on categories such as overall craftsmanship, composition, and the difficulty associated with stuffing and mounting a particular species, Marbury explained.

"I do none of that," he said.

In this contest, a commitment to storytelling is just as important as the taxidermy itself, he said. One previous standout presenter showed off the penguin his dead aunt supposedly bequeathed to him. The burly contestant waxed eloquent about his love for his lost relative, and the presentation ended in a rendition of Dolly Parton's "I Will Always Love You." It was all an act — but that didn't matter.

"He made the whole thing up," Marbury said. "It was great. I love a committed presentation that sort of asks for something from the audience."

But based on past winners, the key to success is having a little something extra that expertly walks the line between good and poor taste.

One of the best-all-time entries was a monkey — bottle opener and brew in hand — riding a coyote that dispensed beer from its penis, Marbury said.

"That one didn't need a story," he said. "It was the story."

"Carnivorous Nights Taxidermy Contest" at Bell House [149 Seventh St. between Second and Third avenues, (718) 643-6510, www.thebellhouseny.com]. April 6 at 7 pm. \$12 advance, \$15 day of show. Contact secretscienceclub@gmail.com to register.

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gade. Many of the muumus the dancers will be wearing on stage are also hand-me-downs from their grandmothers and aunts, she added.

In addition to the group's grooving grannies, the performance, titled "We Real Grown," was also inspired by dance troupe "the Fly Girls" from '90s sketch comedy series "In Living Color," Hannah explained.

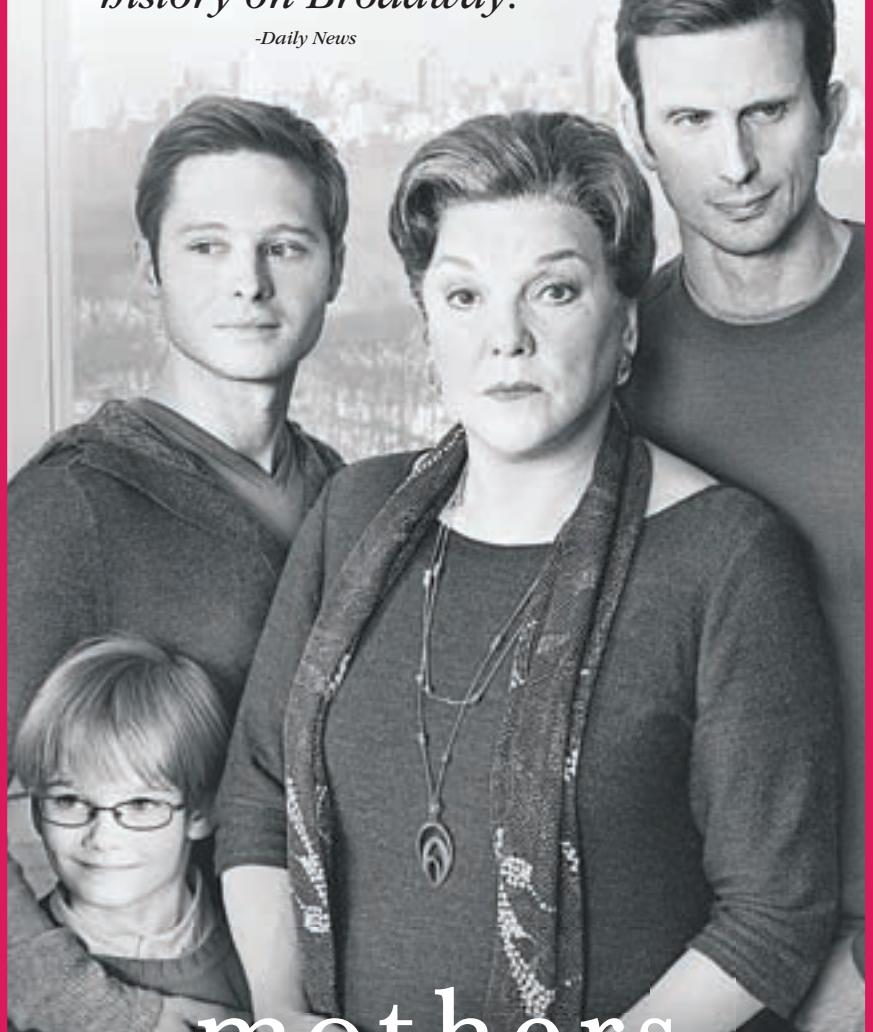
"I thought about how the Fly Girls are old now and how it'd be funny if we were actually old. It's like a sort of parody," she said.

DNA Comedy is one of 29 companies chosen to perform at this year's festival. One of the organizers said it is difficult to find dancers who can land a joke as well as they can land a piouette.

"Choosing the acts is fun, but very challenging because conveying comedy in writing See DNA on page 12

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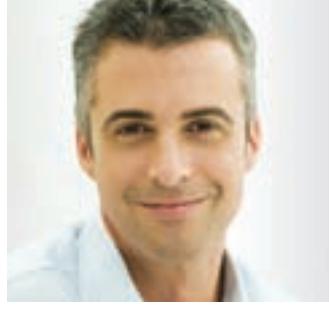
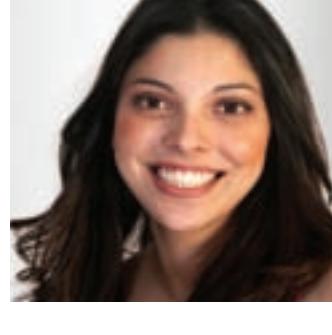
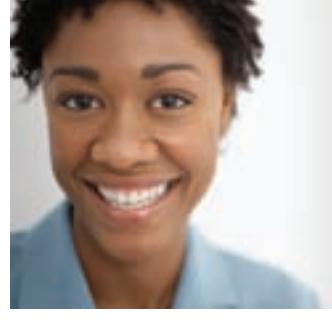
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9 DAYS...

Continued from page 10
666-3049, www.powerhousearena.com.

MUSIC, HURRAY FOR THE RIFF RAFF: \$17 (\$15 in advance). 8:30 pm. Knitting Factory [361 Metropolitan Ave. at Havemeyer Street in Williamsburg, (347) 529-6696, ny.knittingfactory.com].

MUSIC, AMY RAY: \$15-\$20. 8:30 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510, www.thebellhouseny.com].

MUSIC, LUCIFERIN: Free. 9 pm. Freddy's Bar [627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Greenwood Heights, (718) 768-0131, www.freddysbar.com].

MUSIC, FRO: Free.

Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100, www.bam.org].

MUSIC, PEPTALK SINGLE BEN, YOUNG TIDES, POCKET MONSTER:

Free. 9 pm. Freddy's Bar [627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Greenwood Heights, (718) 768-0131], www.freddysbar.com].

ART, "I WAS HERE," "DIT-TIES": Concurrent solo

exhibitions of work by Stephen Paul and Daniel Genova. Free. Noon-6 pm. Giacobetti Paul Gallery [111 Front St. between Washington and Adams streets in Dumbo, giacobettipaul.com].

FILM, "IT": With piano accompaniment from Ben Model. Free. 1:20 pm. St. Francis College [180 Remsen St. between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 489-5200, www.sfc.edu].

ART, OPENING: Conrad Levenson: Sculpture made from artifacts and reclaimed materials. Free. 5-8 pm. Sculptors Guild Gallery [111 Front St. between Washington and Adams streets in Dumbo, (718) 422-9555, www.sculptorsguild.org].

DANCE, "VECTORS, MARYS, AND SNOW": Brooklyn Ballet presents eclectic dancing, live music, and collaborations as well as a sneak peek from the Brooklyn Nutcracker.

\$10-\$25. 6:30 pm. The Actors Fund Arts Center [160 Schermerhorn St. between Smith and Hoyt streets in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 246-0146], brooklynballet.org.

THEATER, "THE ADDAMS FAMILY": A new musical presented by the Xaverian Dramatics club. \$15 at the door (\$10 in advance). 7 pm. Xaverian High School [7100 Shore Rd. at 77th Street in Bay Ridge], www.xaverian.org/dramatics.

COMEDY, "THE EXPERIMENT": Comedian Paul Oddo headlining. \$5. 9 pm. PRB [247 Smith St. at Douglass Street in Cobble Hill, (718) 522-6100, www.peoplesexperiment.com].

TALK, "THE GLOBAL OBAMA": Four experts discuss, "What do people in the United States and around the world really think of President Barack Obama?" Free. 2 pm. St. Francis College [180 Remsen St. between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 489-5200, www.sfc.edu].

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COMED

DON'T SHOOT!

Cops ban photo-taking at training demo

By Matthew Perlman

The Brooklyn Paper

Tell, but don't show. That is what the police department said when it barred our photographer from taking pictures of a firearm training simulation demonstration at a community center in a Fort Greene public housing development. Cops at police headquarters refused to explain on what grounds it could ban photography — and even claimed the event that was advertised on a flyer sent to a community activist was not open to the public.

"It's a private event," said Lt. John Grimple of the department's public information office, when asked why our photographer was told not to take pictures.

How?

"Because we said it is," Grimple said. He then hung up.

A follow-up call shed no more light on what danger could possibly be posed by reproducing images of a first-person-shooting video game system that cops asked the public to come take a gander at. An officer at One Police Plaza said that the department simply does not want pictures published of the machine or the officers who use it.

"We don't know what the risk is so why would we take it?" said Det. Brian Sessa. "That's an unknown risk. Why would we take an unknown risk?"

The event itself was a fascinating glimpse at the high-tech way that officers are trained about how to handle volatile situations and when it is considered okay to shoot people.

The demonstration took place at the Atlantic Terminal

niac all ended with equally deadly force, but not before the assorted cretins brandished machetes, grabbed guns from one of the players' pixelated partners, and drove a car over another, and players responded with blasts from a pepper-spray controller and bashes with a motion-sensing billy club.

The simulator tracks the shots fired by trainees and calculates statistics such as accuracy and response rate. Of course, players get points off if they shoot the baby.

After the fireworks, Agosto explained what effects situations like the ones dramatized have on real-life police on the beat. The goal of the exercises is to induce stress in the recruits, causing them to experience physiological reactions similar to those they might feel in a real-life shoot-out, he said.

"It's stress inoculation," said Agosto, comparing it to vaccines that build immunity to infectious diseases. "We do something as close to reality as we can."

Most of the audience came from Atlantic Terminal housing complex, which contains the community center. Many said they appreciated the boys and girls in blue coming out.

"They're giving people insight about what they're going through," said Joshua Hidalgo, who tried out the knife-wielding shoplifter scenario and landed a slug in the perp. "When you're put on the spot, you don't know what to say, or what the guy's going to do."

Despite the ban on photographs by top cops across the Brooklyn Bridge, officers from the 88th Precinct said the whole idea is to show the world how they operate.

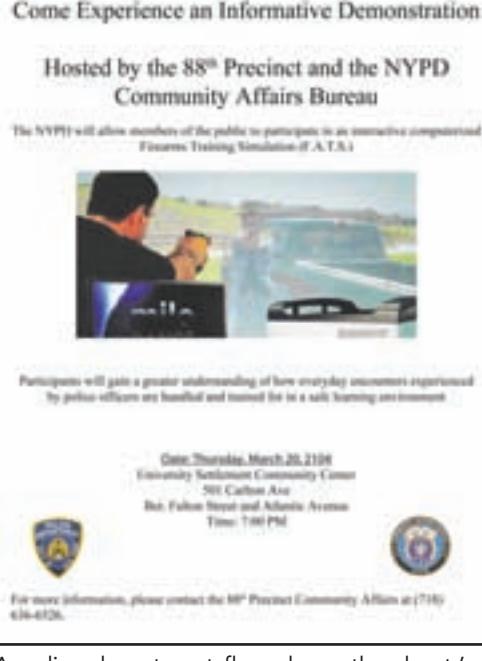
"This gives people a different perspective on what we do," said Deputy Inspector Scott Henderson, commanding officer of the 88th Precinct.

He also wants fans to have a chance to view the mute movies outside the house.

"When we get together in the [Central Library's] Dweck Center, that space becomes an art-house theater," Gordon said.

He knows his passion is in danger of extinction, but he hopes to keep the shows going on. More than 120 years is not a bad run for a medium, he pointed out.

"I think it's kind of a little miracle that we've survived for so long," Gordon said.



A police department flyer shows the shoot-'em-up video game that top cops told us we could not photograph.

Community Center on Carlton Avenue, between Atlantic Avenue and Fulton Street.

The video-game training system projects virtual city environment onto a big screen, which trainees face holding fake pistols that are hooked up to pressurized air tanks to make them kick back like real guns. A trainer runs the program, changing the behavior of the people on the screen as the trainees yell commands at them. Det. Joseph Agosto of the police academy led the demo for the audience of about 20. Each of the four scenarios audience members ran through quickly escalated to situa-

tions of kill-or-be-killed.

In the first scenario, volunteers rolled up at a bodega where the owner told him that a shoplifter with a history of violence was holed up in the bathroom. The people playing officer went to check it out and the suspected scoundrel confronted them in the hall and ignored shouts of "Freeze!" and "Put your hands up!"

Finally, the ruffian reached for a knife and lunged for the screen, at which point the players had to pump him full of lead or face a game over.

A traffic stop, a domestic disturbance, and an encounter with a baby-carrying ma-

a whole new kind of experience, he said

"Technology is something people become addicted to," Gordon said. "But if you get past all that stuff, you realize these films are even a little hypnotic."

The Library of Congress estimates that 11,000 silent films were made in America, most between 1912 and 1929. In a report released last year, it said 70 percent — or 7,700 — of those titles have been lost. Gordon wants to make sure people get to see the ones that survived.

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PIANO...

Continued from page 1

"If you're successful, you're almost invisible," he said. "The really good ones are few and far between."

Gordon started out as a filmmaker, but soon discovered the work was too grueling for him and that his favorite part was screening the flicks after they were done. Now he makes a living conducting research,

writing, and showing classic cinema.

"I see it as if I'm a chef, and I'm serving people a feast," he said.

Gordon's favorite entrees are silent films. He feels that people today are intimidated by the old-school moving pictures because they are so used to more sensory forms of media. But if they give his shows a shot, they might find themselves drawn into

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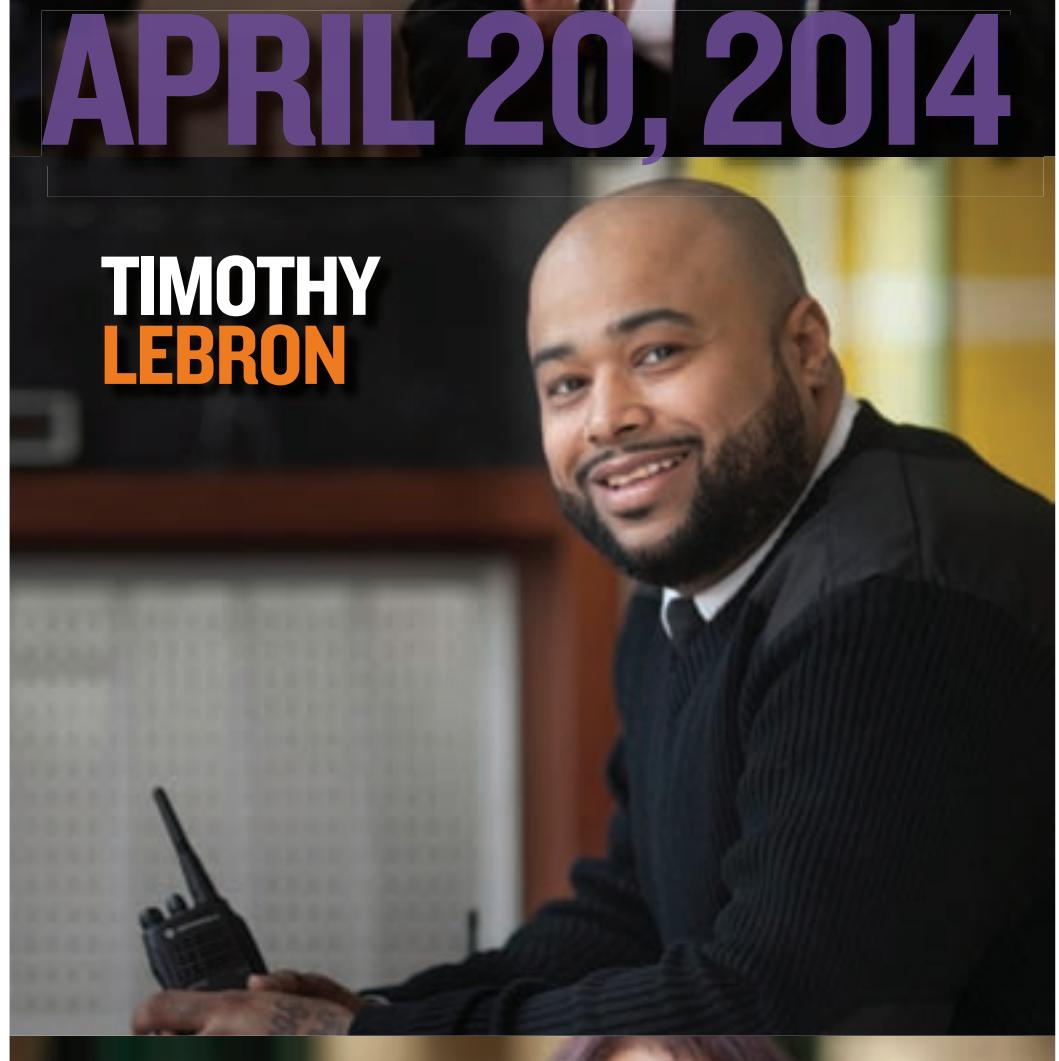
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BUSINESS, BROOKLYN STYLE

Sloper walks to find a cure for pancreatic cancer

Park Slope resident Julie Rendelman Spring will join fellow New York tri-state area residents as she supports her mother who is battling pancreatic cancer by participating in The Lustgarten Foundation's fourth annual New York City Pancreatic Cancer Research Walk. The walk will be held on Sunday, April 6, at Clinton Cove in Manhattan's Hudson River Park.

The Lustgarten Foundation is the nation's largest private foundation dedicated to funding pancreatic cancer research. Due to Cablevision's support of The Lustgarten Foundation, 100 percent of every dollar that Julie and her fellow walkers raise will go directly to pancreatic cancer research.

In October 2012, Julie was shocked when her mother Sondra — a healthy, active mother of four, grandmother of five and great grandmother of two children — was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Together, Julie and her mother joined the Foundation's New York City Walk last year for the first time, and they will join together again, along with friends and family, to participate in this year's walk as "Team Pink Ladies Two."

"The incredible passion and determination of Julie and Sondra is shared by the many participants who join with the Foundation to



Julie Rendelman Spring, left, will walk in support of her mother Sondra.

walk each year in support of raising awareness and funding for pancreatic cancer research," said Lustgarten Foundation Executive Director Kerri Kaplan. "We're all walking together in the spirit of unity and hope that with more research, we will find a cure."

The Lustgarten Foundation's New York City Pancreatic Cancer Research Walk at Clinton Cove in Manhattan's Hudson River Park (55th Street and the Hudson River) will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 6, with registration starting at 8:00 a.m. For more information about the walk and to register, please visit www.curePC.org.

LICH...

Continued from page 1
prove of, but they made it clear that they think any plan calling for less than a full-service hospital is not worth the paper it is written on.

"I don't care whether it's Mohammed on the mountain who comes down and offers something less than a hospital — it doesn't meet our needs," said lawyer Jim Walden, who represented six community groups in a lawsuit against the state.

Anti-closure advocates served their loudest ire for the Related Companies-Brooklyn Hospital Center plan and the Fortis Property Group-New York University Langone Medical Center plan, both of which involve donors to Gov. Cuomo, Cuomo, as The Brooklyn Paper has documented, controls the State University of New York, whose representatives effectively have final say in choosing a buyer for the hospital.

The Brooklyn Hospital proposal drew jeers because it calls for just two urgent care centers on the site of the Cobble Hill medical center and two walk-in healthcare centers in Red Hook and Gowanus.

The audience collectively



(Above) Long Island College Hospital doctors Tom Sorra and Douglas Sepkowitz spoke on a panel of hospital advocates who are calling for the facility to stay a full-service hospital. (Right) Neighbor Werner Kohn pontificated about how qualified each bidder is to take the hospital over.

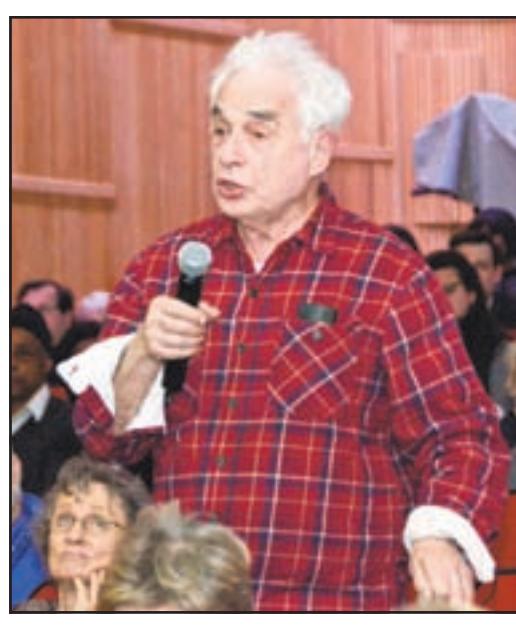


Photo by Elizabeth Graham

groaned as panelists read the outline by Fortis Property Group, which calls for an ambulatory surgery center and a cancer center. One hospital worker and speaker said he met with the company's medical reps and they did not have a basic idea of the medical campus they hope to renovate.

"The medical people had no clue of how many buildings were there and what could actually be done with the place,"

said Tom Sorra, Concerned Physicians of LICH president.

Other staffers on hand said the Prime Healthcare Services pitch could be the light at the end of the tunnel. The California-based hospital management corporation's proposal calls for opening a 100-bed hospital immediately in the existing medical buildings.

"That is attractive to me," said New York State Nurses Association member Susan

Shanahan. "We don't like any proposals that close the hospital for any amount of time."

Under a new bidding process created by a court settlement that ended a year-long lawsuit over the state's effort to close the hospital without public input, plans will be evaluated based on a point system that weighs medical services as two-thirds of the score and the rest in terms of cash commitments. As part of

the new system, a committee made up of Councilman Carlos Menchaca (D—Red Hook) and reps of the nurses unions and community groups that sued the state will have less than half the say in scoring the medical component of each plan and no weight in weighing the financials.

The State University of New York could choose a plan at an April 3 board meeting, according to a university spokesman.

as a shuttle bus, and about as unwieldy.

"That's the dish-washing monster," said Oleg Dobrzhamskiy, who works for Nemcova. "When you put something in it that's not very big, it just flies around and makes a lot of noise."

Bermensolo said she and Hu plan to grow the kitchen and hope to create more food incubator spaces in the future.

"There really is a demand out there for kitchen incubators," she said.

They'll soon have some competition, though. The city has received several bidders for a food incubator planned for Crown Heights, according to a spokesman for the city's Economic Development Corporation. The space was originally set to be run by the do-it-yourself giant 3rd Ward, which the city awarded \$1.5-million, but the company folded without warning and the city has refused to say where the money went.

Nemcova said the growth in food production is a boon for the borough.

"To know that industry

is alive and well in Brooklyn makes me feel good," she said.

FOOD...

Continued from page 1
courts—and decided to open it to start-ups, she said.

It costs budding chefs less than \$200 to rent kitchen space for one eight-hour shift at Hana Kitchen. Bermensolo said there are 20–30 tenants renting on a regular basis, including dessert makers, a Japanese salad-dressing company, a tamale producer, and a charcuterie company.

For tenants, the key draw is the equipment.

"As you know, it's not easy to build even a small kitchen," said Gabriel Arvizu, who splits his time between working for Kyotofu and making brownies with a Mexican twist for his own company, Arv Sweets.

Ella Nemcova moved her food business, Regal Vegan, to Hana Kitchen from the Entrepreneur Space in Long Island City three years ago, seeking an easier commute and some equipment that the Queens kitchen didn't offer.

There are plenty of well-stocked commercial kitchens in Brooklyn, but Hana

Kitchen also offers the mentorship and training that one would find at a start-up incubator, without the prohibitive build-out cost and application process, Bermensolo said.

Arvizu said Bermensolo and Hu helped him obtain the licensing and insurance necessary to operate as a business.

"They didn't do it for me, but they put me in the right direction," he said.

The team also advises tenants on packaging, labeling, and how to improve the look of their products, he said.

"There's this under-served population of food-producers that needs guidance on logistics and packaging," Bermensolo said.

That sort of advice can mean the difference between a passion for cooking being an expensive hobby and it becoming a career, according to one newly former tenant.

"They have all kinds of ideas about how to market yourself," said Julia El Bardai, whose company Elba & Ries prepares refrigerated meals.



Gabriel Arvizu spends half his time working for Kyotofu and half his time working on his project, Arv Sweets.

El Bardai said she and a business partner recently struck out on their own and that starting out at Hana Kitchen helped them hit the ground running.

The mentorship is there, but Hana Kitchen could still do a little more in the way of equipment training, Nemcova said.

"How do you go from working on a four-burner stove to working with some of these huge machines?" she said.

Nemcova said a shift at the Entrepreneur Space included an assistant who helped prep food or work machines for a couple of hours, but that service came at an additional cost — a morning shift at Entrepreneur Space is \$235, while the same shift at Hana Kitchen runs \$180.

Hana Kitchen is a hodge-podge of appliances. There is a bathtub-sized, commercial fryer sitting next to a household electric range. The dishwashing machine is as long



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PARENT**Facing the terms of mom-hood**

I am not hurt, I am not hurt. I repeat this over and over to myself on many week-end mornings when I float out to the house at large, "Anyone want to come with me on a walk?"

"No."

"No thanks."

"Nope, I'm good."

One boy, then a second, then a man, all confirming their desire not to hang out with me.

All happily ensconced with technology playing, reading, seeking out information of one kind or another.

I head out the door with the dog, Ginger, my ally, my girl, my companion. Her tail wags, her smile appears beneath her sandy beard. Thank god for Ginger.

I cannot help but feel rejected. Isn't part of the reason I had kids was so I could have cute little playmates? Apparently, once they start to decide how to spend time on their own, they do not always choose to be with their mom. Huh.

I immediately feel guilty, memories flooding back of my own childhood when I refused to take walks with my own mom.

Did I notice if she was upset? It is normal, I think, that kids want to do their own thing. It is good when they can separate. Right? Isn't it?

The balance I try to achieve between doing my own thing — work and social — and how much time I devote to the kids is shifting

**Fearless Parenting**

By Stephanie Thompson

with the new normal, where the kids cheer when we say we're going out, knowing that means they can do as they please without me yammering at them to do what pleases me.

But I'm cool! I swore I would be the fun mom that the kids would like to hang around, that I would totally understand them and their interests and not be the wonky clueless lout lingering to squeeze out a

few words.

Suddenly, I am a wonky clueless lout.

I try to laugh at the things they like on iFunny.com, but they're not always funny. I fall asleep during shows I try to watch with them if it is past 8 pm.

I wake up in a panic sometimes lately that I'm losing them and that I need to do something quick. But what? Take up paintball?

It happened last week that

they were with friends, each of them on their own personal devices. I was disappointed.

"Why even be together?" I asked. It offended me as much for the moment as for the so many other moments when they chose technology over talking to me.

I told them they had to get off, and they agreed. It was even like they wanted to, but didn't know what else to play.

"We don't have enough people to play 'Hit Man,'" one of their friends said, "unless ... unless you play!"

I swear somebody stopped the record player suddenly with a scratch. A mom allowed to play?

I expected my boys to wave off the idea of my

joining them in play, but they looked up at me expectantly.

Okay, here it was. My dream came true. I looked at the book in my hand, at the fire in the fireplace in front of me, and rose up slowly from the beanbag. I recognized a gift horse when I saw one.

"Okay, I'm in," I said. "What do I do?"

I was Hit Man, it turned out, and my kill was "a bit too obvious." But I was forgiven.

And it reminded me that sometimes, oftentimes, in the coming years, I'm going to have to jump at the chances I'm given to be with my boys.

And it's going to be on their terms, not mine.

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LOVE...

Continued from page 1
helpers said the inaugural Love Brooklyn Day got them hooked on pitching in.

"This was my first time volunteering in my community," said Brandis Peebles, who lives in Bedford-Stuyvesant and helped paint a mural at a local do-good organization with her husband and three children. "Now I'm looking forward to volunteering again."

Peebles and her family were among the 25 Brooklynites who painted at the offices of Children of Promise, a group that provides activities and counseling for children with parents in prison. Also in attendance was our illustrious arts editor Ruth Brown, who was determined to buck the stereotype of journalists as amoral sociopaths with a few self-less strokes of her brush.

"Just because we try to remain objective doesn't mean that we can't do things like this in our spare time to help the community," she said. "You certainly meet interesting people and you are more likely to find story

ideas if you venture out of your cubicle, rather than sitting around writing smart-a-- tweets."

Professional artists drew an outline of the mural of kids playing in a park ahead of the event and the volunteers colored between the lines. Brown, whose brush-wielding experiments reinforced her confidence in her choice of careers, stuck mostly to painting the sky, leaving it to others to add in objects and improvise highlights on characters' clothes. The resulting scene was a sight to behold.

"It popped off the wall," she said. "It was definitely better than the white wall that was there before."

A honcho at the organization said the gesture means a lot to the kids.

"The murals will really be impactful for our students," said Latoya Williams-Belfort, director of development at the facility on MacDonough Street between Tompkins and Marcy avenues. "We want to inspire our children."

Volunteers had their paint-



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Four-year-old Sakura makes a peanut butter sandwich at Saint John's Bread and Life.

brushes out in Bushwick too, teaching a flower-pot painting class at the DeKalb library branch. The project brought local youngsters to the library in droves.

"The kids are curious," said Noris Myles, who works at the library. "They want to learn new things," she said. "They all got really excited for this project."

Over at Bedford-Stuyvesant's Saint John's Bread and

Life, which provides meals to poor people, still more volunteers helped run a healthy snacks workshop for families. Participants made tasty tidbits, including peanut-butter sandwiches.

New York Cares claims to be the city's largest volunteer organization, marshaling good Samaritans to run programs for 1,300 groups, schools, and city agencies.

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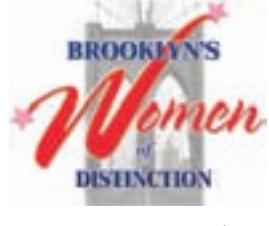
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BLOTTER...

Continued from page 4

The victim then called the cops, but quickly became uncooperative, police said. Officers arrested the fellow anyway and charged him with assault with intent to cause injury.

That's random

A woman randomly punched another woman on Third Place on March 17, according to police.

The 25-year-old victim was near Court Street and was looking down at her phone around 3:48 pm when a lady with long, black hair punched her on the left side of the head.

The victim said she followed the criminal and asked, "Why did you hit me? Do you know me?"

"I felt something, that's why I hit you," the wild woman supposedly said, then whacked the victim again with a pair of scissors.

— Megan Riesz

68TH PRECINCT

Bay Ridge-Dyker Heights

Stiletto stabber

A high-heel-wearing lady and her gang of male goons stomped a guy into the pavement on 75th Street on March 21, according to cops.

The victim reported getting into an argument with the violent femme and her band of brutes at the intersection of Fifth Avenue at 11:10 pm. The dispute came to blows, and the brutes knocked the victim to the ground and began kicking him in the face, dislodging several of his teeth, police reported.

But that was nothing compared to the dental damage the deadly dame did with her spike heels to the man's face, gouging up his cheeks and knocking out several more molars, police said. The victim sought treatment at Lutheran Medical Center, according to a report.

Apple plucked

A fleet-footed fiend filched a female's iPhone on 75th Street on March 17, police reported.

The victim told cops she was standing on the sidewalk at Third Avenue with her mobile device in hand at 10:30 pm when the villain ran up and snatched the gadget away.

Up in smoke

Cops collared a man who they say bashed a hookah lounge owner with a water pipe inside a Fifth Avenue

smoke bar on March 23.

The victim said that he got into a verbal altercation with his accused attacker at 6:49 pm at the hangout between 77th and 78th streets, and demanded the man in custody leave. The suspect complied — but then snuck in the back door.

When the business owner tried to block his way, the defendant allegedly grabbed a hookah and smashed it against his arm. The proprietor said that the defendant then grabbed a keyboard and smacked him upside the head with it. Police say they arrived on the scene moments afterward and arrested the accused.

The victim said she followed the criminal and asked, "Why did you hit me? Do you know me?"

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